

April 12, 1973

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, this looks like a pretty expensive bill. I meant, the amendment seems expensive and it is attached to the bill itself in the bill book; however, the changes themselves may not be quite so and to be totally honest, I was making preparations to give LB 370 which is my own bill so I'll ask whoever is responsible for this bill to carry on if he will.

SPEAKER: Senator Anderson.

SENATOR ANDERSON: Be glad to handle the amendments and the bill. I think perhaps the, the way to start would be to start with an explanation of the bill and then explain what the amendments do and then we can adopt the amendments and go with the bill. The original bill started out, it's an attempt to simply update laws as they affect township government. There is a law on the books which requires the townships to have an annual meeting in January and to submit certain financial reports about receipt and disbursements during the past year and to adopt a budget at that time. When the Uniform Budget Act of 1969 was adopted by this body, that required for the townships, a second meeting. The Uniform Budget Act required a budget meeting in the summer at which time a summary of receipts and disbursements for the past year were prepared, published, provided to the public. It required the budget hearing, a meeting normally in the month of July which was a duplication of the meeting in January. Therefore, this bill was introduced originally to eliminate the January meeting since it is duplicated by the meeting required by the Uniform Budget Act which is in the summertime so that is the basic intent of the bill. There is a second section in the bill which eliminates a report which is to be filed that actually is duplicated by the Budget Act. The amendments were then brought in on the bill and I don't think any of the amendments are really amendments of substance. They are all amendments which clarify language. There are provisions affecting township elections and, of course, there have been numerous changes in state election laws in the, in the past few years and there are several sections in the amendments which simply, for example, add election commissioner to county clerks since there are election commissioners in some of the township counties, clarify language, update various things. Many of these things have not been changed since 1893, 1909. There is in Section 9 of the amendments, a township highway overseer who is now dropped. In checking with all of the township counties around the State, we found that there were not any township highway overseers; that this job was now being done by the county, county engineer, the county road department in each case so this was no longer necessary and is dropped. I don't think there are any other changes other than changes in the election laws, updating the language that are affected by the amendment so, Mr. President, I move the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER: Senator Hasebroock.

SENATOR HASEBROOCK: Mr. President and Members of the Legislature. I wonder if Senator Anderson would yield to a question. Senator Anderson. These amendments that you have just discussed, would they, who brought all of those into the committee?

SENATOR ANDERSON: Senator Hasebroock, the procedure in developing these amendments, the basic work in writing the amendments has been done by the Secretary of State's office which handles, of course, the election law procedures as it affects all the local governments. They had a committee of county clerks from township counties get together and comb through all of the laws affecting township government in an attempt to take out or change any of the obsolete matter or bring the election laws affecting township government up to date so county clerks in township counties working